

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Prior to the Office Action, claims 1-23 and 25-28 were pending. Through this reply, claims 21-23 are canceled and claims 29-33 are added. Therefore, claims 1-20 and 25-33 are pending. Claims 1, 7, 13 and 28 are independent.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant appreciates that the Examiner indicates claims 28 as being allowable. *See Final Office Action, item 7.* Claim 28 is amended merely to included the term “and” so that the claim is clerically correct. The scope of the claim is not changed.

Applicant also appreciates that the Examiner indicates claims 21-23 as including allowable subject matter. *See Final Office Action, item 6.*

§102 REJECTION - FUKUOKA

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Fukuoka et al. (US Publication 2001/0017979). *See Final Office Action, items 2-3.* Applicant does not necessarily agree with the Examiner.

However, merely to promote the progress of the application, independent claim 1 is amended to incorporate the feature of claim 21, which is indicated to

include allowable subject matter. *See Final Office Action, item 6.* Therefore, independent claim 1 is now allowable.

Claims 2-6 depend from independent claim 1. Therefore, for at least due to the dependency thereon as well as on their own merits, these dependent claims are also allowable.

Applicant respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-6 based on Fukuoka be withdrawn.

§103 REJECTION – FUKUOKA,

Claims 7-20 and 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fukuoka in view of Blazek et al. (US Patent 4,864,425). *See Final Office Action, items 4-5.* Applicant does not necessarily agree with the Examiner.

However, merely to promote the progress of the application, independent claims 7 and 13 are amended to incorporate the features of claim 22 and 23, respectively. Claims 22 and 23 are indicated to include allowable subject matter. *See Final Office Action, item 6.* Therefore, independent claims 7 and 13 are now allowable.

Claims 8-12, 14-20 and 25-27 depend from independent claims 7 or 13 directly or indirectly. Therefore, for at least due to the dependency thereon as well as on their own merits, these dependent claims are also allowable.

Applicant respectfully request that the rejection of claims 7-20 and 25-27 based on Fukuoka and Blazek be withdrawn.

NEW CLAIMS

Claims 29-33 are added through this Reply. All new claims are believed to be distinguishable over the cited references. All new claims depend from independent claim 28.

Applicant respectfully requests that all new claims be allowed.

CONCLUSION

All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Hyung Sohn (Reg. No. 44,346), to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

U.S. Application No. 09/840,240

Docket No. 0879-0311P

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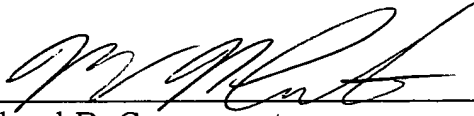
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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH &, BIRCH, LLP

By: _____


Michael R. Cammarata

Reg. No. 39,491

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

HNS
MRC/HNS/ags